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to any one who wishes to find the old familiar cases, and new ones also, discussed in a lively way. Thus no one would wish to miss the searching discussion of a servant's "authority" to commit wrongs (Chapter V), or of the ambiguous expression "scope of employment" (Chapter VII), or of the ethical justifications for *respondeat superior* (Chapter VIII).

EUGENE WAMBAUGH.

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**YEAR BOOKS OF EDWARD II.** Volume XI, 5 Edward II (1311-12). Edited by William Craddock Bolland, being the volume for the year 1915 of the publications of the Selden Society. London: Bernard Quaritch. 1915. pp. xl ix, 257.

In this volume Mr. Bolland has a less picturesque subject matter than in his "Eyre of Kent"; the cases are mostly real actions, the learning is obsolete, the facts undramatic. What does it interest us, whether by essoining himself the lord estopped himself from claiming a villain, or whether the King or the Archbishop of Dublin could present to a Deanery, or whether the Abbot of Holland could have his writ of mesne? We cannot get as excited as Beresford, C. J., about a point of pleading on a writ of replevin of cattle. Mr. Bolland himself appears to regard this as a rather uninteresting volume; his introduction is not in his best vein. There is nothing about it to make us forget that our own time will be past before the Selden Society gets through with Edward II; and of Richard II but one year has been printed. (And the reviewer for one is grateful for this publication, maugre its faults; life is evidently too short to wait for perfection, and get so little.) Should not the Selden Society take note of the fact that the noble historic impulse which led to the formation of the society is in danger of death from inanition? Give us more such noble volumes, such fruitful discussions, cases so full of life as those the society gave us in its earlier years, and we may hope for a new birth of historical scholarship in the younger men. Starve us on vapidly, or on driblets, and we shall all join the social justiciaries.

But there is no need of despair over this volume. Read aright, it is the Epic of Beresford. That lusty conservative fills each page with some expression of his vigorous mind. "At what time," he asks, "was the view granted in a writ of intrusion? In the time of the Antichrist? . . . This is a new writ, and a truly wonderful writ," he observes. "Never will I uphold this writ." An agreement drawn by a soldier is brought before him. "Men-at-arms are clever hands," he allows, "at making a mess of work of this sort." He is alive to his duty as professor of law, teaching the apprentices in the Crib. "One thing I tell you for the learning of the young men that be about us," — and he bettered his promise by telling two things. He could make a pun or a jest barely verging on the delicate; he could illustrate a point by an anecdote of Roger de Heugham and the unjust judges; he could make over a statute to correspond with the unexpressed intention of the legislator.

If all the unpublished Year Books were published we might not be vastly enlightened legally; but we should be wondrous wise as to the life of the English people, and we should know pretty well a number of strong, racy personalities who sat on the bench and molded our law for us. They would be worth knowing.

J. H. BEALE.

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**RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF NEUTRALS.** By Daniel Chauncey Brewer. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1916. pp. ix, 1-248.

This small volume consists largely of papers prepared for the Army and Navy Journal since the outbreak of the present war. It is not, therefore, to